members into line. Legislation thus emanated not from committees but from a party, and over this party stood its chief, who could virtually dictate or veto legislation.

Aside from the foregoing unique features, legislation in the Philippines has conformed to generally accepted procedure elsewhere. Good laws have been enacted. Committees have rendered valuable reports. Speeches have been delivered which have reached the heights of eloquence. Those of Representative Recto in opposition to the *Nationalists* Party, of Representative Roxas on being deposed from the Speakership for adherence to the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act, and of Senators Osmefia and Quezon in their joint debate on the same Act, were particularly effective and dramatic in their setting and appeal.

FORMER SPEAKER AND SENATOR SERGIO OSMENA, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH [3]

If any one man personifies legislative power in the Philippines, that man is Sergio Osmena. He has been continuously a member of the Philippine Legislature from the inauguration of the Philippine Assembly to the inauguration of the Philippine Commonwealth, and during those long years has as continuously occupied a commanding position in the Legislature. First, Speaker of the Philippine Assembly and of the House of Representatives. Next, President *Pro Temfore* of the Philippine Senate, Now, Vice President of the Philippine Commonwealth and leader of the opposition.

Sergio Osmena was born in Cebu on

September 9, 1878. This makes him fifty-seven years of age. But it is a vigorous fifty-seven, for despite his lack of strenuous exercise and despite his kck of outdoor hobbies, he is in good trim physically. Cebu, his birthplace, has ever been his home except for

[8] **Section read by Senator Manuel C. Briones, formerly the Junior Senator from Cebu.**